

ISICSB MISSION

"The board shall develop, implement, and oversee policy, operations, and fiscal components of communications interoperability efforts at the state and local level and coordinate with similar efforts at the federal level, with the ultimate objective of developing and overseeing the operation of a statewide integrated public safety communications interoperability system."

ISICSB VISION

"All emergency response entities in and around Iowa can access interoperable communications systems."

ISICSB Contacts

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Curtis "Wally" Walser

Deputy SWC
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Trivia Question

What is the average amount that American consumers expect to spend on winter holidays in 2022?

*** answer on page 2 ***

"Evil is powerless if the good are unafraid."

~ Ronald Reagan, former United States President

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



From ISICSB

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ Click [HERE](#) to read the December 2022 CISA Report *New*
- ◆ Click [HERE](#) to read the December 2022 FirstNet Newsletter *New*
- ◆ Training Opportunities (see page 2 for more info)
- ◆ Click [HERE](#) to see the FirstNet Response Operations Group (ROG) / Compact Rapid Deployable (CRD) presentation
- ◆ Region 15 700 MHz & 800 MHz Regional Planning Committee Meeting & other information [MORE INFO](#)
- ◆ ISICS NOC Contact Information:
 - ◇ Phone: 515-278-5613
 - ◇ Email: isicsnoc@dps.state.ia.us
- ◆ If you would like to join one of the Regional Interoperability Committees, click [HERE](#)
- ◆ Announcement for current and future FirstNet Users and those with questions regarding FirstNet [READ MORE](#)

To Join ISICS

For more info about joining ISICS click [HERE](#)

To start the process to JOIN ISICS click [HERE](#)

If you need assistance or have questions regarding the ISICS joining process, please contact Lt. Heath Hove @ hove@dps.state.ia.us.

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ISICSB Committee Meetings

Finance Committee—

1st Tuesday of every month @ 2:00 PM

FirstNet Committee—

2nd Tuesday of every month @ 9:00 AM

Governance Committee—

1st Monday of every month @ 11:30 AM

Operations Committee—

1st Wednesday of every month @ 1:30 PM

Outreach Committee—

4th Monday of every month @ 1:30 PM

Technology Committee—

1st Tuesday of every month @ 10:00 AM & 4th Thursday of every month @ 1:30 PM

Training & Exercise Committee—

4th Wednesday of every month @ 11:00 AM

User Group Committee—

3rd Thursday of every month @ 10:00 AM

RIC Meetings

RIC 1—2nd Tuesday of every month @ 3:00 PM

RIC 2—4th Tuesday of every month @ 2:00 PM

RIC 3—3rd Tuesday of every month @ 10:00 AM

RIC 4—4th Thursday of every month @ 10:30 AM

RIC 5—4th Tuesday of every month @ 1:00 PM

RIC 6—1st Thursday of every month @ 10:30 AM

If you would like to join one of the ISICSB committees, please complete the Committee Membership Application Form [HERE](#)

HAPPENINGS

View calendar [HERE](#)

If you would like to nominate someone to be featured in our Public Safety Spotlight, please email Hollie Davidson @ h davidso@dps.state.ia.us

Training Announcements

ICS 300 INTERMEDIATE

DETAILS: This Course provides training on and resources for personnel who require advanced application of the Incident Command System. This course expands upon information covered in the ICS-100 and ICS 200 courses.

AVAILABLE COURSE DATES:

2/21/2023—02/23/2023 (Sioux City) [REGISTRATION](#)

6/20/2023—6/22/2023 (Dubuque) [REGISTRATION](#)

ICS 400 ADVANCED

DETAILS: This course provides training on and resources for personnel who have a responsibility to function in a command post managing and expanding incident. Topics include use of an Incident Complex and Area Command, and the interactions between Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC entities).

AVAILABLE COURSE DATES:

4/20/2023—4/21/2023 (Sioux City) [REGISTRATION](#)

9/12/2023—9/13/2023 (Dubuque) [REGISTRATION](#)

ISICS System Administrator Report

ISICS Assistant System Administrator Scott Richardson reports the following updated numbers for the ISICS Network for the month of November 2022:

- ⇒ Total Radios—31,586 (up 200 from October)
- ⇒ Total Talkgroups—2,861 (up 21 from October)
- ⇒ Total Push-to-Talks—2,378,329 (down 103,957 from October)

RESOURCES

Documents

- ◆ [2020—2023 Iowa Statewide Communications Plan \(SCIP\)](#)
- ◆ [2021 ISICSB Report to Legislature](#)
- ◆ [Approved ISICS Standards](#)
- ◆ [ISICS Contact Information Form](#)
- ◆ [ISICS Standardized Interoperability Guide Card](#)

Forms

- ◆ [Become a Board Member](#)
- ◆ [Committee Membership Application](#)
- ◆ [Radio Programming Certification Form](#)

YouTube Videos

- ◆ [Iowa Total Interoperability](#)
- ◆ [ISICS System Live Demo](#)
- ◆ [ISICS Technology](#)

Training Videos

- ◆ [Console/Control Station Training](#)
- ◆ [ISICS Standard 1.3.0—Use of Plain Language](#)
- ◆ [ISICS Standard 1.5.0—Regional & Statewide Interoperability Talkgroups](#)
- ◆ [ISICS Standard 1.5.2—Air Ambulance Scene Flight Landing Zone Coordination](#)
- ◆ [Status Board End User Training](#)

New Approved ISICS Users

- ◆ Dickinson County Emergency Management (update) - Level 4
- ◆ Iowa Department of Corrections (Newton Correctional Facility) - Level 2

COML & COMT Credentialing



During the December 8, 2022, ISICSB meeting, Deputy SWC Curtis "Wally" Walser presented two credentialing certificates. Josh Harding received a certificate for completing the training and credentialing requirements for a Communications Unit Leader (COML). The COML plans and manages the operational and technical aspects of the communications function during an incident or event. Curtis Woten received a certificate



for completing the training and credentialing requirements for a Communications Technician (COMT). The COMT is a professional responsible for supporting the technical activities for the Communications Unit, such as radio/system coverage, radio programming, maintenance and repair, telephone service to the incident, data access, and gateway management.

Upon successful completion of the COML or COMT course, students have 3 years to complete a *Position Task Book (PTB)*. The PTB documents their ability to perform in related work areas, at which point credentialing and recognition for in-state and cross-state assignments as a COML or COMT are determined by the student's individual state/territory of employment or residence.

Congratulations to Josh and Curtis on these outstanding achievements!

New ISICSB Chair & Vice-Chair Named

ISICSB would like to thank Major David Ness for his dedication to the ISICSB and serving as the ISICSB Chair for the past 2 years. With his recent promotion and increased job responsibilities within the Des Moines Police Department, Major Ness has decided to step down as the ISICSB Chair effective January 1, 2023. Major Ness will remain on the board as a Board Member.



At the December 8, 2022, ISICSB meeting, nominations were made to fill the vacant ISICSB Chair and Vice-Chair positions. With unanimous consent, Michele Bischof with the City of Des Moines Fire Department was elected to serve as the ISICSB Chair, and Patrick Updike with the Iowa Department of Corrections was elected to serve as the ISICSB Vice-Chair.



Congratulations to Michele and Patrick on their new roles within the ISICSB.

Trivia Answer

The average amount consumers expect to spend during the 2022 holiday season is \$832. The top gifts consumers expect to give include clothing/accessories (55%), gift cards (45%), toys (37%), books or other media (33%), food/candy (31%), personal care/beauty items (25%), electronics (24%), home décor/furnishings (21%), jewelry (20%), sporting goods/leisure items (17%).

Source: <https://www.investopedia.com/financial-edge/1112/average-cost-of-an-american-christmas.aspx>

FirstNet Authority Update—Jon Olson

New Hampshire Public Safety Official Receives Distinguished Award for Leadership in Communications

New Hampshire public safety leader John Stevens has been awarded the prestigious Chief Harlin R. McEwen Public Safety Broadband Communications Award (Harlin McEwen Award) for his leadership and commitment to the advancement of broadband communications for public safety personnel. [READ MORE](#)

FirstNet, Built with AT&T is Connecting More First Responders Across Maine

First responders in Maine are benefiting from FirstNet's expanding coverage, boosted capacity, and new capabilities. FirstNet's Band 14 infrastructure is bringing public safety agencies nationwide access to the network's unique features and functions. [READ MORE](#)

FirstNet, Built with AT&T is Connecting More First Responders Across Rhode Island

First responders in Rhode Island are benefiting from FirstNet's expanding coverage, boosted capacity, and new capabilities. FirstNet's Band 14 infrastructure is bringing public safety agencies nationwide access to the network's unique features and functions. [READ MORE](#)

FirstNet, Built with AT&T is Connecting More First Responders Across Virginia

First responders in Virginia are benefiting from FirstNet's expanding coverage, boosted capacity, and new capabilities. FirstNet's Band 14 infrastructure is bringing public safety agencies nationwide access to the network's unique features and functions. [READ MORE](#)

Latest Podcast: [Episode 66: Oxford Police leverages compact rapid deployable to boost emergency comms in Alabama](#)

Featured FirstNet Authority Video: [Jackman, Maine: Telemedicine in the inland island—YouTube](#)

2022 FirstNet Authority Combined Board and Committees Meeting Schedule:

- Wednesday, February 15, 2023, Austin, TX, 9AM, Central Time Zone
- Wednesday, May 03, 2023, Boulder, CO, 10AM Mountain Time Zone
- Wednesday, August 23, 2023, Seattle, WA, 10AM Pacific Time Zone
- Thursday, November 02, 2023, Washington, DC, 10AM, Eastern Time Zone

On behalf of the Authority, I'd like to wish each of you a Happy Holiday Season, and I am looking forward to working with you in 2023!



Jon Olson

Senior Public Safety Advisor

FirstNet Authority

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New FirstNet Sites

One new 4G LTE site has launched; includes Band 14 for first responders.

- ◆ Between Rock Rapids & Rock Valley in Doon, Iowa
- ◆ NW corner of I-235/I-80 interchange

FirstNet Recent News

Offering a Helping Hand for First Responder Health and Wellness

For the men and women on the frontlines of our communities, health and wellness can often take a back seat. But with higher rates of depression, PTSD, burnout and anxiety, first responders around the country are already facing struggles that can take its toll both mentally and physically over time.

For law enforcement, there is a more than 20-year difference in life expectancy compared to the average American male and it's estimated that 20-25% of all first responders experience post-traumatic stress. These are just a few numbers that paint a sobering picture of responder health and wellness. However, community support for these challenges is possible. [READ MORE](#)

Helping first responder agencies keep their sites, data and other assets secure

Keeping your information secure is one of our key priorities at FirstNet. And the Security Awareness Team with the FirstNet Program at AT&T is responsible for ensuring FirstNet users are up to date on various cybersecurity topics and issues. We do this by providing awareness content in videos, lesson plans and the tip sheets via the FirstNet Cybersecurity Aware App.

And this content is all available to you at no additional charge. That's one of the benefits of joining FirstNet. And it's available to you with your service.

Agencies and individuals can download the FirstNet Cybersecurity Aware App from the FirstNet App Catalog or the app store for their specific device. And they can download content from the app to share with other first responders. [READ MORE](#)

Keeping yourself healthy throughout the holidays

Holidays have a way of bringing people together. They encourage giving, kindness, spending time with family and embracing friendships. This is the time of year when different cultural customs are on display and colorful bulbs light up houses and municipalities. It quite truly can be a wonderful time of the year.

But the holiday season has another side to it that can bring feelings of sadness, loneliness, and stress for most people. And this is also true for our nation's first responders.

While we often hear about laughter and joy, there are several common stressors associated with the holidays, including: lack of money, pressure of giving gifts, a sense of a lack of time, credit card/financial debt, physical health, eating, and alcohol. [READ MORE](#)

- ⇒ [AST SpaceMobile launches \\$75M public offering](#) 11.30.2022 | (FierceWireless) Stankey said that initially the satellite service will be for emergencies, including providing connectivity for FirstNet, the company's public safety network.
- ⇒ [After exploring 'opt-out decision in 2017, New Hampshire's Stevens wins First-Net Authority award](#) 12.1.2022 | (Urgent Communications—Powered by Dow Jones) Last month, the FirstNet Authority named John Stevens as this year's recipient of the Harlin R. McEwan Public Safety Broadband Communications Award recognizing an individual "who has displayed remarkable leadership or made significant contributions in the field of public-safety broadband communications."
- ⇒ [Will your call for help be heard?](#) 12.1.2022 | (Police1) Whether an agency already has a robust cellphone plan with a specific carrier or they rely on networks like FirstNet, it makes no difference in their ability to use L3 Harris equipment, says Elder.
- ⇒ [At&T, federal partners launch data portal for weather resiliency planning](#) 12.5.2022 | (RCR Wireless News) Network resiliency—including hardening of infrastructure, ensuring back-up power and offering rapidly available deployable assets during recovery—has become particularly important to AT&T as it builds out and maintains the FirstNet Network for first responders across the country (which includes FEMA as a customer).
- ⇒ ['We just have to get smarter': At&T's president of network resiliency, risk and using sophisticated climate modeling \(Part 2\)](#) 12.15.2022 | (RCR Wireless News) When AT&T was in the running for the FirstNet contract to run a national network for first responders, Chris Sambar—now AT&T's president of ne—was the head of AT&T's FirstNet team.

The New Broadband Maps are Finally Here

The FCC recently unveiled the *pre-production draft* of its [new broadband maps](#). These maps provide the best picture available to date of where broadband is and is not available across the country. The maps can be viewed and challenged through January 13, 2023.

These improved maps will mean direct benefits for consumers. Users now have a one-stop-shop to search for their address and find information about which internet service providers claim to offer service at the location, the broadband technologies they offer, and the maximum download and upload speeds they advertise for each technology. This greater transparency will create market pressures on internet providers to improve their coverage. The new maps will also help policymakers more accurately target investments to expand broadband to unserved and underserved areas and close the digital divide.

The long-term success of this effort will depend on consumer and stakeholder engagement. To ensure that the maps are constantly improving, we have set up a system that allows consumers and others to challenge inaccuracies and provide feedback. Individuals who see that the information on the maps does not match up with what they know from their lived experience will be able to submit challenges, or request corrections, directly through the map interface. Bulk challenges to the reported availability data from state, Tribal, and local governments and other stakeholders who see problems that need corrected will also be accepted.

Link to the announcement: [The New Broadband Maps Are Finally Here | Federal Communications Commission \(fcc.gov\)](#)

Link to newspaper article on how the map works and how it has been challenged: [New FCC broadband map allows you to challenge service availability \(jsonline.com\)](#)

FIRSTNET MISSION

"The FirstNet mission is to deploy, operate, maintain, and improve the first high-speed, nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety."

FirstNet Resources

- ◆ [Agency Deployed RAN Presentation](#)
Web Link: https://dps.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/commissioners-office/interoperability-communications/isics-board/pdfs/FirstNet%20Iowa%20Broadband%20Committee%20pdfs/Agency_Deployed_RAN_Iowa8Nov2022.pdf
- ◆ [FirstNet Cybersecurity for Public Safety](#)
Web Link: https://dps.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/commissioners-office/interoperability-communications/isics-board/pdfs/FirstNet%20Iowa%20Broadband%20Committee%20pdfs/FirstNet_Cybersecurity_for_Public_Safety_1.04_External.pdf
- ◆ [Securing Public Safety eBook](#)
Web Link: https://dps.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/commissioners-office/interoperability-communications/isics-board/pdfs/FirstNet%20Iowa%20Broadband%20Committee%20pdfs/ATT_FirstNet_Security_eBook_Final.pdf
- ◆ [FirstNet Fact Sheets](#)
Web Link: <https://firstnet.gov/newsroom/resources/fact-sheet-faq>
- ◆ [Response Operations Group Presentation](#)
Web Link: https://dps.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/commissioners-office/interoperability-communications/isics-board/pdfs/FirstNet%20Iowa%20Broadband%20Committee%20pdfs/Response_Operations_Group_v2.pdf
- ◆ [AT&T Cell Booster Pro](#)
Web Link: <https://www.firstnet.com/content/dam/firstnet/white-papers/att-cell-booster-pro.pdf>
- ◆ [CEL-FI QUATRA 1000 FN](#)
Web Link: https://www.cel-fi.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/QUATRA1000FN_brief.pdf
- ◆ [CEL-FI GO RED Brief](#)
Web Link: https://www.cel-fi.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/GORED_brief.pdf
- ◆ [Emergency Management Resource Guide](#)
Web Link: <https://www.firstnet.gov/system/tdf/Emergency-Management-Resource-Guide-September-2021.pdf?file=1&type=node&id=1915&force=>
- ◆ [FirstNet App Catalog](#)
Web Link: <https://apps.firstnet.att.com/?auth=false>
- ◆ [FirstNet Current & Future User Form](#)
Web Link: <https://web.archive.org/web/20220125122314/https://isicsb.iowa.gov/current-future-firstnet-users>
- ◆ [FirstNet Deployable Request Form](#)
Web Link: https://www.firstnet.gov/system/tdf/FirstNet-Deployable-Request-Form-September-2021_0.pdf?file=1&type=node&id=1916&force=
- ◆ [FirstNet Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)
Web Link: <https://www.firstnet.gov/system/tdf/Top%2010%20FAQs%202022.pdf?file=1&type=node&id=679&force=0>
- ◆ [FirstNet in Iowa](#)
Web Link: <https://firstnet.gov/public-safety/firstnet-for-iowa>
- ◆ [FirstNet Nationwide Coverage](#)
Web Link: <https://www.firstnet.com/coverage.html>

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